

**KUKAHI COALITION
431-C Kalama Street
Kailua, Hawaii 96734**

December 10, 1999

TESTIMONY BY CLARA L. KAKALIA

Aloha, Honorable John Berry, Assistant Secretary, Department of Interior; Honorable Mark Van Norman, Deputy Director, Department of Justice:

My name is Clara Kakalia, Chair, Kukahi Coalition. The Coalition promotes educational programs on Hawaiian culture. We were instrumental in bringing Senator Daniel Akaka to be a keynote speaker on November 21, 1998, to the Center for Hawaiian Studies, University of Hawai'i, to observe the Fifth Anniversary of the Federal "Apology" Bill.

The Coalition points out that the Apology Bill "never relinquished their claims to their inherent sovereignty as a people over their national lands to the United States either through their monarchy, or through a plebiscite or referendum."

The Apology Bill further calls for the United States to begin "reconciliation" or provide the process or procedures toward it.

Also, missing from the Apology Bill are the lands and water which are essential to our livelihood.

The Overthrow was a violation of international law; so, too, was the Annexation.

The Resolution embodied in Public Law 103-150 is a true and factual representation of what happened to our Islands in 1893. Every congressman received a copy of this Resolution. The work of our Congressional leaders is not over.

We ask that Congress enact formal legislation on this Apology Bill that would call for the return of our lands and water.

If Kukahi can be a part of the drafting of this "Bill", we would appreciate this very much.